

As we celebrate African American History Month, let us commit ourselves to raising awareness and appreciation of African American history. Let us teach our children, and all Americans, to rise above brutality and bigotry and to be champions of liberty, human dignity, and equality. And let us rededicate ourselves to affirming the promise of our Constitution.

**Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush,** President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim February 2001 as National African American History Month. I call upon public officials, educators, librarians, and all of the people of the United States to observe this month with appropriate ceremonies, activities, and programs.

**In Witness Whereof,** I have hereunto set my hand this first day of February, in the year of our Lord two thousand one, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-fifth.

**George W. Bush**

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 12:16 p.m., February 2, 2001]

NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on February 5.

**Letter to Congressional Leaders  
Transmitting the Final Report on the  
National Emergency With Respect to  
the Lapse of the Export  
Administration Act of 1979**

*February 1, 2001*

*Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. President:)*

As required by section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1703(c)) and section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1641(c)), I transmit herewith the final report on the national emergency declared by Executive Order 12924 of August 19, 1994, to deal with the threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United

States caused by the lapse of the Export Administration Act of 1979.

Sincerely,

**George W. Bush**

NOTE: Letters were sent to J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Richard B. Cheney, President of the Senate. An original was not available for verification of the content of this letter.

**Remarks at the Republican  
Congressional Retreat in  
Williamsburg, Virginia**

*February 2, 2001*

Thank you all very much. I like to give short speeches, and I'm always on time. *[Laughter]* But evidently, I didn't get the dress code. *[Laughter]*

I really appreciate you, Speaker, thanks for your friendship, thanks for your leadership. These are two really good men. And I want to thank you, J.C. and Rick, as well, for your—pretty darn eloquent guy for being from Oklahoma. *[Laughter]* He can tell it. I appreciate you. Thank you very much. I'm looking forward to welcoming the University of Oklahoma football team to the White House.

I appreciate the chairman of the Republican Party being here. I chose a fellow Governor—or I asked a fellow Governor to serve, and he's a good one. He's a strong leader. He's done a fabulous job for the Commonwealth of Virginia, and I appreciate you being here, Jim, thank you very much.

I'm glad you get to see the Secretary of the Treasury, who's smart and capable. He's surrounded by Senator Grassley and Congressman Thomas, good work. *[Laughter]* It didn't take you long to transition from the private sector. And Condi is here, Condi Rice; a capable Chief of Staff, Andy Card; Nick Calio, who's going to really head up our congressional affairs.

The reason I bring these people up is that they're here to serve America. They're here to work with you to make our jobs easier. And I've assembled one of the finest staffs any President has ever done in the White House.